them, as it were, naturally, just as the flowers give forth their perfume, the birds their song, and as the sun shines down alike on good and bad, as it goes on its daily circuit—because all this is of their very nature. In the most trivial things of daily life the spirit of kindness should render itself evident. God is kind in small things as well as in great ones. This is manifested in the works of Creation, but it is brought much more home to us in the Incarnation of the Word, in which the loving kindness and considerateness of the Sacred Heart are shown forth so touchingly in all Its dealings with men.

Kindness is as the bloom upon the fruits—it renders charity and religion attractive and beautiful. Without it, even charitable works lose their power of winning souls, for without kindness, the idea of love of anything supernatural—in a word, of Jesus, is not conveyed to the mind by the works performed, even though they be done from a right motive. There is such a thing as certain exterior actions which are intended to be charitable, ungraciously. Now actions thus performed do not manifest the kindness of the Heart of Jesus, nor will they be efficacious in extending the empire of the His love or in winning souls to His Kingdom. The fruit may be sound, but the bloom is not on it; hence it is uninviting. Therefore, advisedly have we said that Kindness has a mission to perform on earth which no other agent can effect. It is a lever specially designed by God to loosen the hard clods of earth in the hearts of men, in order that the water beneath those clods might gush forth again and irrigate the land grown barren from its hardness; it is a genial sun lighting on the frozen snow of hearts, which no other influence could melt; it is as the rod of Moses, at whose touch the waters flowed forth from the arid rock of Horeb; for even so does kindness, with magic power, touch the barren rock of pride, opening up salutary well-springs in the soul, and causing eyes which have not wept for long shed tears of chastening sorrow.